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House of Representatives

The House met at 10:30 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. SIMMONS).

DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,

April 8, 2003.

I hereby appoint the Honorable ROB SIMMONS to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

J. DENNIS HASTERT,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Mr. Monahan, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate has passed without amendment bills of the House of the following titles:

H.R. 397. An act to reinstate and extend the deadline for commencement of construction of a hydroelectric project in the State of Illinois.

H.R. 672. An act to rename the Guam South Elementary/Middle School of the Department of Defense Domestic Dependents Elementary and Secondary Schools System in honor of Navy Commander William "Willie" McCool, who was the pilot of the Space Shuttle Columbia when it was tragically lost on February 1, 2003.

The message also announced that the Senate has passed bills of the following titles in which the concurrence of the House is requested:

S. 164. An act to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a special resource study of sites associated with the life of César Estrada Chávez and the farm labor movement.

S. 212. An act to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to cooperate with the High Plains Aquifer States in conducting a Hydrogeologic Characterization, Mapping, and Modeling Program for the High Plains Aquifer, and for other purposes.

S. 220. An act to reinstate and extend the deadline for commencement of construction

of a hydroelectric project in the State of Illinois.

S. 278. An act to make certain adjustments to the boundaries of the Mount Naomi Wilderness Area, and for other purposes.

S. 328. An act to designate Catoctin Mountain Park in the State of Maryland as the "Catoctin Mountain National Recreational Area", and for other purposes.

S. 347. An act to direct the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture to conduct a joint resource study to evaluate the suitability and feasibility of establishing the Rim of the Valley Corridor as a unit of the Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that pursuant to Public Law 101-509, the Chair announces, on behalf of the Secretary of Senate, the appointment of Paul Gherman, of Tennessee, to the Advisory Committee on the Records of Congress.

MORNING HOUR DEBATES

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of January 7, 2003, the Chair will now recognize Members from lists submitted by the majority and minority leaders for morning hour debates. The Chair will alternate recognition between the parties, with each party limited to not to exceed 30 minutes, and each Member, except the majority leader, the minority leader, or the minority whip, limited to not to exceed 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas (Mr. DELAY) for 5 minutes.

HOUSE ACHIEVEMENTS SPEAK FOR THEMSELVES

Mr. DELAY. Mr. Speaker, the Members of the 108th House of Representatives have served the American people well during the longest legislative stretch we will have this year. We have passed, or will pass, legislation that has upheld American values, protected American families, affirmed fiscal dis-

cipline, and provided tax relief for millions. The record is clear.

We passed a permanent ban on human cloning.

We passed a resolution affirming Americans' identity as "one Nation, under God, indivisible" in the Pledge of Allegiance.

We passed the Social Security Protection Act to crack down on waste, fraud and abuse against the program's most vulnerable intended beneficiaries.

We passed a budget that sets the United States on a path to balance and provides tax relief necessary to stimulate an economy that can meet all our needs.

We passed a compassionate and effective welfare reform package.

We passed sweeping reforms to the Nation's bankruptcy system.

We passed medical liability reform.

We passed legislation providing \$835 million in tax relief for America's military servicemen and their families.

We passed legislation to create a national AMBER Alert system.

We passed tougher penalties against criminals who prey on children and funding to assist battered-women shelters and victims of family violence.

Not a bad start. Yet before we recess, the House will also complete a final budget resolution with the Senate to provide tax relief and fiscal accountability. We will pass a comprehensive energy package to better secure the United States by reducing our dependence on foreign oil. We will pass the supplemental appropriation to fund the liberation of Iraq, the ongoing war on terror, and meet emerging homeland security needs. The House of Representatives has acted on behalf of our troops on the other side of the world and we have acted to secure their proud and grateful countrymen here at home.

Mr. Speaker, our actions speak for themselves, so I will stop interrupting.

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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